GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:335
ANSWERED ON:13.03.2003
FORMULATION OF BIO-FUEL POLICY
RAM SINGH KASWAN;SUDHA YADAV

Will the Minister of NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are contemplating to formulate a comprehensive Bio-Fuel Policy; and

(b) if so, the main objectives of the Bio-Fuel Policy?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI M. KANNAPPAN)

(a)& (b): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) & (b) OF THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 335 BY SHR SINGH KASWAN AND DR. (SHRIMATI) SUDHA YADAV TO BE ANSWERED ON 13TH MARCH, 2003 REGAR FORMULATION OF BIO-FUEL POLICY.

(a)&(b): The Government have taken a policy decision with regard to blending of ethanol with petrol and have mandated supply of 5% ethanol blended petrol from 1st January, 2003 in the States of Andhra Pradesh, Goa, Gujarat, Haryana, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Punjab, Tamil Nadu and Uttar Pradesh and the Union Territories of Chandigarh, Daman &Diu, Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Pondicherry. Government have conducted a ` Policy Analytical Study on the Utilization of Ethanol Fuel Blends and Other Biofuels in Petrol and Diesel Engines` with the objective of developing measures for the accelerated use of biofuels as a substitute to petroleum based fuels and for reducing environmental pollution caused by the use of petroleum based fuels. Research & Development work with regard to higher than 5% blending of ethanol with petrol, blending of ethanol & biodiesel with diesel, exploring different routes of ethanol production, development of technologies for converting different non-edible oils to biodiesel, etc. is also underway. Interest subsidy for the production of ethanol from routes other than molasses, and for manufacturing kits/modified engines suitable for using higher biofuel blends, is available through the Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency (IREDA). Planning Commission have set up a Committee to study different aspects of the development of biofuels. Ministry of Rural Development have included biofuel plantations on wastelands/ degraded lands under their ongoing programmes.